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A radio talk by Reuben Brigham, Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, delivered Wednesday, October 19, 1932, in the period of the National Farm and Home Hour over a network of radio stations.

The proof of the pudding is eating it. Facts are developed by the State agricultural experiment stations and the United States Department of Agriculture for the use of the farmer and his family. County extension agents in every county bring these facts to the people of their counties in a form ready to use. Are these facts proving helpful? Are farmers and farm women using these facts to their advantage? What's the answer?

A few minutes ago, Mrs. Scott and Dr. Hart told you how the farmers of New York and the farm women of West Virginia are using such facts. I find the same thing to be true with many other men and women the country over. W. W. Redinger of Harrison County, Missouri, for instance, bought a farm in 1930 when land values were high. In 1928, he found his income from general farming was not enough to provide a satisfactory living. More money was needed to continue his mortgage payments. He looked about for some profitable specialty to give him additional income; then, took up turkey growing. He obtained information from his county extension agent and followed closely the recommendations of the Missouri College of Agriculture. By careful feeding and management, he kept his brooding losses below ten per cent. During the past spring, he hatched and supplied 20,000 young turkeys to customers wanting turkeys to raise. Through the difficulties of the past four years, he has made a good living and has met his mortgage payments.

In Hines County, Mississippi, A. L. Hughes needed more cash to get along satisfactorily. He talked to his county agent about it. He decided after looking into the situation that he could develop a good local market for peaches from a small orchard. So he put out something over an acre of peach trees. He worked this orchard, fertilized it and sprayed the fruit. From this orchard, he sold in 1930 and 1931 \$1,230 worth of peaches. This was the equivalent in cash return of two 17-bale crops of cotton in the same period. His profit was \$777.

Mrs. John McCloy in Desha County, Arkansas, found that she needed more income to take proper care of her family. Gardening appealed to her as a way out. She took the recommendations of the Arkansas College of Agriculture and put them to work on a piece of ground 150' x 125'. She grew 32 varieties of vegetables and sold them for \$552. For her own family, she canned over a thousand containers of fruits and vegetables. Mrs. McCloy's garden has meant money for clothing, for house furnishings and for comforts for her family.

Cutworms found their way into the fifty acre alfalfa field of H. K. Harvey of Humboldt County, Nevada. The alfalfa quit growing. It was a sick looking field. Mr. Harvey called in Paul Maloney, the county agent. Agent Maloney found the worms and he and Mr. Harvey proceeded to feed them on a mixture of arsenic, bran and molasses. The cutworms passed out. The alfalfa flourished. Mr. Harvey harvested a \$375 alfalfa crop. He had met his situation.

Ernest Ritter of Snyder County, Pennsylvania, had a litter of eight Chester White pigs farrowed last January. There was money for him in those
(over)

pigs, if he handled them right. There was sure to be a loss, if he did not. He got reliable information on their feeding and care from his county agent and went to work. At the end of six months, he received a return of \$96 above feed costs for his trouble.

A few days ago, I was in Indiana. In Decatur County, 450 farmers with over 3000 litters like those belonging to Ernest Ritter wanted the best information they could get on how to handle their hogs. They obtained this information from Lee Thurston, their county agent. By using it, they averaged an increased return of \$12 per litter over what they would have obtained with ordinary handling.

J. W. Holland of Duplin County, North Carolina, found that because of lack of rain his corn yield would be cut at least in half. He could not afford to buy feed and his livestock was certain to go hungry if some other crop could not be grown to furnish the feed required. His county agent advised him to try either wheat or barley. He planted five acres of each and harvested 115 bushels of wheat and 120 bushels of barley. This was enough to see him through. He met his situation.

In Hancock County, Maine, Mrs. Addie L. Cummings found many things that she felt needed to be done about her home. They had to be done at little expense. So she took the facts she learned at local extension meetings and put them to work.

She made her kitchen a pleasant place to work in. Plenty of light and air, attractive walls, the sink and tables at the right height, equipment so arranged as to save steps and strength - these resulted when she put facts to work. Even dishwashing became less of a drudgery and she was able to get the job done in half the time it used to take.

Mrs. Cummings went ahead, too, with improvements in the rest of her house. She repaired and refinished several pieces of furniture. One piece was an old dilapidated couch. It had been stored so long that she had to remove all the padding and springs, leaving just the framework. Going ahead, step by step according to the information she had obtained, Mrs. Cummings produced a charming and useful piece of furniture at small cost.

Whatever she could learn that would make her household work easier or her home more comfortable and livable, Mrs. Cummings has used. She has met her situation.

In these and many other ways you will find farmers and farm women the country over using the facts and information available to them. Each is doing his best to meet his situation as he finds it. The proof of the pudding is in the eating.